









ing in the city of Victoria, with its 150,000 inhabitants, is a city of the Chinese population, and the habits of the Chinese population are very different from those of the English. The Chinese population of the city of Victoria is about 150,000, and the English population is about 150,000. The Chinese population is very different from the English population in many respects. The Chinese population is very different from the English population in many respects.

The following telegrams are taken from the Australian papers:

London, July 25.—The torpedo boat constructed for the Queensland Government made a trial trip today, and attained a speed of 17 1/2 miles per hour. The trial was successful, and the boat was found to be very capable.

The capital of the new Oriental Bank is being subscribed freely. Applications for shares to the amount of £100,000 have been received from Sydney, and the total amount subscribed from the East is £200,000. Many of the subscribers are from the East.

The captain of a Spanish gunboat has been arrested at Jamaica by the captain of H.M.S. *Flamingo* for firing on a British ship. The gunboat was fired on by the *Flamingo* on the 24th inst. The gunboat was fired on by the *Flamingo* on the 24th inst.

London, July 24.—The Australian cricket team commenced a match today at Brighton against an eleven of Sussex. The attendance was good, and the weather fine. Sussex won the toss and went to bat first.

London, July 24.—The match was continued at Brighton today. The attendance was again very large, but heavy rain fell at intervals during the day, and temporarily interrupted the game. The home team scored 100 runs, and the visitors 90 runs.

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Shortly after the firing was commenced, those on board the merchant steamers, who were watching the proceedings, were startled at hearing the deadly crackling roll of the machine guns—it seemed over their heads. On looking round, they saw the ironclad *Triumph* steaming up the river through the merchant vessels to the scene of the fight, her salutes firing the machine guns from her tops as she advanced. They were firing at some Chinese vessels across a piece of low lying land.

The Chinese made a most miserable fight. It is said that on board the vessels only three or four men were left standing. The river was said to be full of men soon after the action commenced, all swimming for their lives, or rather those who could do so. The English men-of-war sent steam launches and boats to pick these poor wretches up, and numbers were saved in this way. One of the Chinese gunboats, however, was observed to make a pretty good fight. They were too frightened to haul their flags down, which were seen flying hours afterwards, when, deserted and on fire, they floated down the river past the merchant shipping. Soon after this action commenced one of the French torpedo boats exploded a torpedo against a Chinese vessel, rendering her a perfect wreck. She sank immediately. The smoke that was caused by this explosion and the firing almost obscured the scene from the spectators. The *Corvette Yang Wo* also met her fate from a torpedo boat. She took fire after the explosion and went ashore, where she continued burning. As the fire reached her guns, which had been loaded, or got to the ammunition, there was a series of explosions, which, sending a cloud of sparks up into the air, caused a pretty good sight. The whole of the Chinese vessels, with the exception of two, were sunk or set on fire and destroyed in that way. The French continued firing into the burning vessels in order to sink them. One of the Chinese gunboats (not alphabetical) escaped, up the river; and another went ashore some distance in order to escape to escape in the same direction, and appeared to have hopelessly damaged herself.

The Chinese forts hardly showed more fight than the vessels. When a shell came anywhere near them the soldiers could be seen running away in crowds. Only a few rounds were believed to have been fired from the forts altogether—from many of the guns only one round was fired.

The French went on bombarding the forts and vessels until half past five, when the particular forts attacked were in ruins, and the Chinese war vessels on fire or at the bottom of the river.

Another report, however, at about half past seven, when the French commenced firing at several burning vessels for the purpose of sinking them; of these burning vessels several came down the river past the merchant men.

The *Glenfinlas* had a narrow escape. One of the burning vessels drifted down on her and sank right across her bows. She sank so close to the bows of the *Glenfinlas* that the steamer lost both her anchors, the burning vessel apparently having drifted on to the anchor chains. Another burning vessel—one of the alphabetical gunboats—drifted down to the *Glenfinlas* and sank under her quarter. The French man fired at her until she had approached so close to the *Glenfinlas* that they had to cease firing for fear of hitting the neutral vessel. The *Glen* boat was anchored near the blue funnel buoy, and was, as we have stated, before the vessel nearest to the *Glenfinlas*.

The *Argo* also had a narrow escape, a burning vessel having drifted down to her, and got entangled in her yards. The British Admiral immediately sent men and apparatus for the purpose of aiding her in getting rid of her dangerous visitor, and the burning vessel was ultimately towed clear of the *Argo*. The merchant vessels also had one or two narrow escapes from being struck by shots, which came unpleasantly near on one or two occasions. It was thought an alphabetical gunboat was the delinquent on one occasion, when an enormous projectile came across the spit of land and nearly struck the *Argo*.

At four o'clock in the morning the Chinese appear to have sent down a launch with two torpedoes, to endeavour to do some damage to the French vessels. The French commenced firing at it, tracing its course with the electric light, and hunting it down with their own torpedoes. The launch was destroyed, and, presumably, its occupants. A French launch was upset in the chase after this after-dark and ugly vision. It is doubtful if any one remained on board the Chinese launch after its presence was detected.

On Sunday morning, at about half past 10 o'clock, the French commenced shelling the Arsenal, and they were at this work when the *Woosung* left, shortly after noon. Yesterday (Monday) it was understood the French vessels were to proceed down the river and destroy the forts at Kiang Poo, and other places. It is said the gun at the Kiang Poo forts are, with few exceptions, placed so that they can only be fired at vessels coming up the river, so that the French will be able to bombard these forts almost without getting repulsed, as they proceed down the river.

A shell almost struck the side of the *Woosung* as she was leaving up the river on Sunday.

It is not believed the French would suffer any serious damage.

The English pilot Thomas was killed on board one of the French vessels. He received a grape shot in his stomach.

The French are said to have had four or five other accounts—some seven killed and twelve wounded.

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## THE HOSTILITIES AT FOOSHOW.

### DETAILS OF THE FIGHTING.

The *Woosung*, Captain Hunt, arrived here this afternoon from Foochow. She left Paqua Anchorage shortly after midday on Sunday. The fighting on Saturday took place in the immediate neighbourhood of the *Woosung*—so near to her, in fact, as to endanger her safety and that of the other merchant steamers at the Anchorage. We are indebted for the following particulars of the fighting to the Captain of the *Woosung* and a passenger on board.

The hostilities took place off Paqua fort—a little higher up the river than where the merchant vessels anchor, nearer, in fact, to the Foreign Settlement. At the time of the engagement the following vessels were at the Anchorage—British steamers *Glenfinlas*, *Woosung*, *Taku*, and *Mary Austin*; sailing vessels *Sin Kio*, *Batavia*, and *Gulding Star*. The *Glenfinlas* was the nearest merchant vessel to the scene of the operations, and, as will be seen further on, she had one or two narrow escapes from serious damage or destruction.

The foreign men-of-war, other than French, at the Anchorage, were the British *Corvette Sappho* and *Champion*, the Italian *Despatch*, the German *Corvette Fregate*, and the German *Corvette Fregate*. The British Admiral immediately sent men and apparatus for the purpose of aiding her in getting rid of her dangerous visitor, and the burning vessel was ultimately towed clear of the *Argo*. The merchant vessels also had one or two narrow escapes from being struck by shots, which came unpleasantly near on one or two occasions. It was thought an alphabetical gunboat was the delinquent on one occasion, when an enormous projectile came across the spit of land and nearly struck the *Argo*.

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